



# EMC News

December 4, 2000

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## **Chair's Report**

This year has been a satisfying and productive one for the EMC. Just a few of our accomplishments include:

- a. Completion of the Unique Natural Areas of Tompkins County, 2000 Report, presentations to the Board of Representatives, the 16 municipalities in the County, and other groups, and notification letters to 2,600 landowners who own property in a UNA.
- b. A presentation to the Board of Representatives on solar panels for the new County library. The Board ultimately voted to install the panels.
- c. Environmental reviews of numerous projects, including the Cornell Radiation Disposal Site Feasibility Study.
- d. Participation on a County project team working on the emergency communication system upgrade.

A full list of the EMC's activities will appear in the EMC's 2000 Annual Report, which will be prepared shortly after the end of the year. Thank you to all EMC members for your hard work. To those who are leaving the EMC, we will miss you! To those who will return in 2001, keep up the good work.

*Submitted by Susan Brock*

## **Pesticide Neighbor Notification Committee**

At its 11/15 meeting, the Planning and Intermunicipal Coordination (PIC) Committee asked the EMC to summarize the Pesticide Neighbor Notification law, including the county opt-in provisions, for consideration at PIC's special 12/5 meeting. The opt-in provisions become effective only if a county adopts them. If the County wants them to be effective in 2001, it must adopt them by the end of this year. The PIC Committee will decide on 12/5 whether to put the opt-in provisions on the Board of Representatives' agenda for its meeting later that same day. EMC members will attend both the PIC and BOR meetings. If this matter moves forward, it is possible the BOR will hold a public hearing and consider enacting the opt-in provisions at its 12/19 meeting.

*Submitted by Susan Brock*

## **UNA Committee/Education Committee**

On November 9, Karen Edelstein and Lynn Leopold were invited to give a UNA presentation to the Forest Homeowners Association at the home of David and Cynthia Bouldin. The group was very enthusiastic about the fact that many of the homeowners own part or all of a Unique Natural Area in the Fall Creek Corridor.

The group felt strongly that having a UNA was an important asset to their properties and several attendees were interested in ways of protecting their land for the future.

*Submitted by Lynn Leopold*



## **Announcements**

### Energy Saving Tip of the Month

One of the easiest and most economical ways to make your household more energy efficient is to purchase compact fluorescent light bulbs.



A compact fluorescent lamp uses 15-18 watts to deliver the same illumination as a 75-watt incandescent bulb, and provides a similar warm color. It also lasts a dozen times as long as an incandescent bulb, and will save over \$45 in electric costs during its lifetime. In fact, the return on an investment in these bulbs is about 40 percent!

Each bulb, over its lifetime, will also save enough electricity to displace 662 pounds of coal (or 62 gallons of oil). Roughly 1,600 pounds of carbon dioxide and 18 pounds of sulfur dioxide are not released into the air. Remember, the bulb more than pays for itself out of its energy savings, so these environmental dividends are better than free.

Lighting uses about a fourth of all electricity produced in the United States, consuming the energy of 120 large power plants. (about 4/5 directly and 1/5 in extra air conditioning to remove the unwanted heat). By using the most efficient sources of electric light in the most effective ways, we can profitably save up to 90% of this electricity and prevent the environmental degradation associated with fossil fuel consumption.

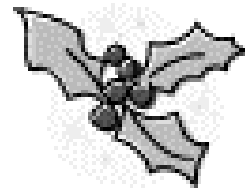
*Submitted by Stephen Nicholson*

### ***Cayuga Lake Watershed Characterization***

The Intermunicipal Organization has completed its watershed characterization, and CDs with the characterization are located in municipality offices and libraries. The EMC has also received a copy of the CD and it is available for EMC members to review. The Cayuga Lake Preliminary Watershed Characterization Report was developed to meet two objectives: to present the current state of scientific understanding of the lake and to describe the multitude of activities underway by government, private companies, and individuals to protect the lake.

*Submitted by Bruce Johnson*

*Happy Holidays!*



### **No Reports Submitted**

*Coordinator's Report*

*County's Public Safety Communication System (Towers) Committee*

*Environmental Review Committee*

*Executive Committee*

*NESTS Committee*

*Water Resources Committee*